

USSN 10/657,417

Election & Preliminary Amendment Responsive to Office Action of April 23, 2004.

July 23, 2004

A-1586Con2

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the title of the application to be --INERTIAL BARRIER MODULE
ARRAY & METHODS --

On page 1, lines 2-6, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

-- This application is ~~related to co-pending patent application Serial No. 09/282,699, entitled *Inertial Barrier Module*, filed on March 31, 1999, which is a continuation of patent application Serial No. 08/989,545, filed on December 12, 1997, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,927,896, which patent is a continuation under 35 U.S.C. 120 of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/233,960, now U.S. Patent No. 6,637,972, which in turn is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,823, now U.S. Patent No. 6,491,420, both of which are herein expressly incorporated by reference.~~ --

On page 12, lines 16-23, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

-- An advantageous feature of the invention, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 5-7, is the incorporation of an axially tapered sidewall portion 39 about the circumference of the pedestal 22. The inventor has found that this tapered conic section 39 provides substantially more strength in compression than does a horizontal sidewall ~~sidewall~~ step when transitioning the sidewall 26 of the pedestal from the larger diameter open end 38 to the smaller diameter mating end. This additional compression strength is important particularly when the container 20 is completely filled with sand 15. --